(b) if so, by when; and

(c) what is the current status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The techno-economic feasibility report prepared by the City and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO)) of Maharashtra for construction of a second international airport at Navi Mumbai is under examination.

Postponement of Fleet Acquisition of AI

1368. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Board of Air India has postponed its decision on fleet acquisition due to lack of time;

(b) whether some urgency and importance needs to be given to this longstanding case considering the fact that the decision has been pending for over ten years now; and

(c) if so, what action Government are taking on tne fleet modernisation of Air India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Board of Air India in its meeting held on 12.12.2001 set up an Expert Committee to develop Air India fleet plans for next five years. This committee submitted an interim report to the Management, which was examined by the Sub-Committee of the Board of Air India. The Board of Air India accepted the recommendations of the Sub-Committee and authorised the Management to proceed with the formation of a separate Technical Committee to finalise ground rules and other requirements for inviting competitive bids. This Technical committee has now submitted its report and further action is being taken for inviting bids.

Development of Visakhapatnam Airport

1369. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop Visakhapatnam Airport;

(b) if so, the allocation made therefor; and